

# Color My Day

Waking up every day in the morning with that sunny feeling you have here in Aruba is a real treat. The sun is bursting through your windows and lights up your whole house. It is the place where you feel at ease and where you have your favorite spot to dream away or to relax after a busy day at work. How does a TV personality color her days? We visited Tessa Pietersz at her wonderful home.



**She develops new concepts for television, but also hosts her own programs. Tessa is a program developer for the Aruban broadcast company ATV. As a program developer, she takes care of the commercial as well as the creative part together with her team. "Twelve years ago we developed Trend Alert, a program based on pointing out new trends. There is a commercial aspect, but it is mainly about consultancy in the field of fashion, interior design, food & beverage and so on. Actually it can be anything." Besides her busy professional life, Tessa is mother of four which makes coming home from work an important moment to settle down with her family.**

## Coming home

Her backyard is two steps away from the Aruban nature and provides her a feeling of total relaxation when she returns home from work. "With my car full of kids I literally leave the hectic day behind me when driving home. It took a while, but now I can say I can really get peace of mind when I come home. My most precious moment is taking a soothing shower. Then slip into my pajamas or other comfortable clothing and just relax in my bed with all my kids around me. We chat along, eat something, watch television or read a book."

## My favorite spot at home

The place where she can fully unwind is her bedroom and the balcony. "It is a room away from everything where we can cool down in the air-conditioned space and find some rest." Tessa's house is very casual in her eyes, but at the same time reflects her character. "I designed and built the house myself and at that time people tend to keep everything closed. To me it was the opposite: I am not that kind of person to put in a box and therefore my house needs to be open in order for the wind to blow through it." All the doors and shutters are opened and the kids are able to run in and outside as they please. "I prefer openness and expression." The style of her house can be described as tropical chic. "As you go through different phases in life, your taste develops too. Nowadays I would choose a more simplistic interior and a green way of living." The one thing that never changes is her wish to live close to nature. "That feeling of living in the outdoors gives me peace of mind."

## Valuable tip

"When I started to design the house I began to purchase my furniture and decorations in various places. My advice to people would be to buy it all ahead of time in order to prevent a big spending at once." Another argument is that it saves time. "At the moment your house is ready to move

in you have so many things on your mind that shopping for furniture is the last thing you would like to do." When it comes to the design of the house Tessa points out the importance of a good building plan. "For instance the wind: it is vital to know in what direction the house is being built. Another point to take into consideration is the materials you want to use. You could easily fall in love with these strong colored tiles now, but will you still find them irresistible after ten years for example? In my opinion, keep the base simple and uniform. And express yourself by using details."

## Trends

For her TV programs Tessa works together with commercial clients that keep her up to date on different trends. "Personally I am not a sucker for trends, but see them as a trigger. One should always stick to one's own taste. I do not believe in just following a trend just because it's called fashion at that moment." The goal of her program is to help people find their way within a certain budget. "I always had a strong taste for certain things and I simply love a comfortable life. What I mean with that is not a luxurious life per se as you can make life simple with the little things. My vision is not to confer some kind of status by buying designer brands, but to follow my own direction."